

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
MARCH 18, 2004**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Bea Antenore, President, at 9:00 a.m., in the multi-purpose room at Houghton Park. Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

Present: Bea Antenore, President
Chris Kozaites, Vice President
Raymond Chavarria
William Marmion
Harry Saltzgaver
Drew Satariano

Absent: Naomi Rainey (excused)

Staff: Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Thomas Shippey, Manager, Maintenance Operations Bureau
Dennis Eschen, Manager, Planning and Development
Bert Srack, Acting Manager, Community Recreation Services
Steven Neal, Chief Ranger
Kevin Prelgovisk, Manager, Business Operations
David Ashman, Manager, Special Events and Filming
Robin Black, Executive Secretary to the Director

Guests: Hodassa Jackson, Cinco de Mayo event
Robert Lamond, Partners of Parks
Joe Weinstein, Sierra Club
Rebecca Turrentine, Chair, Commission on Youth and Children
Derek Barraza, California Sun & Surf
Diana Mann, Eco-Link
Amy Bodek, Manager, Project Development Bureau, Community Development
SummerHansen

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 19, 2004

It was moved by Commissioner Marmion and seconded by Commissioner Chavarria to approve the February 19, 2004 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

III. SAMMY AWARD PRESENTATION – LESTER THOMPSON

Mr. Lester Thompson stated that Sammy attended the Maintenance Operations Bureau all staff meeting, made sure the patrons of the dogs on the beach were aware of all the rules and regulations, and helped out with the beach renourishment project. He said that Sammy helped out quite a bit with flagging the equipment on the beach. Mr. Thompson then awarded Sammy to Ms. Letty Flores, from the Payroll/Personnel office.

IV. EMPLOYEES-OF-THE-MONTH PRESENTATIONS FOR MARCH

Vice President Kozaites announced Lori Summers as Maintenance Operations Bureau's Administrative Employee of the Month. Mr. Tom Shippey stated that she has worked for him since he became bureau manager, about a year and a half ago. He said that that she is extremely efficient and does a tremendous amount of work in ways to streamline their paperwork. He said that she does a great job handling the phone complaints they receive.

Vice President Kozaites announced Jeff Grant as Community Recreation Services Bureau's Lead/Supervisory Employee of the Month. Ms. Lori Jarmacz stated that Mr. Grant is working diligently with the sod at Blair Field. She said that there is a very important game this evening and he was so dedicated that he didn't feel he could leave work to attend the Commission meeting. She stated that she would make sure that Mr. Grant receives his award.

Vice President Kozaites announced Bob Deeds as Maintenance Operations Bureau's Field/Operations Employee of the Month. Mr. Mark Sandoval stated that Mr. Deeds is the Bureau's most unassuming employee. Mr. Sandoval said that Mr. Deeds has been with the Marine Bureau for quite some time and that he relies on Mr. Deeds' expertise on the launch ramps. Mr. Joe Pitisi, Mr. Deeds' immediate supervisor, stated that he has done an excellent job maintaining the launch ramp machines, for which he is available on a 24-hour a day basis.

President Antenore stated that item A under New Business would be next, because the speakers have another meeting to attend.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION ON THE COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN – CYNTHIA FOGG

Mr. Hester stated that the Parks and Recreation Commission requested an update on the Commission on Youth and Children. He said that Ms. Cynthia Fogg is the staff liaison for that Commission. He stated that Ms. Fogg would also introduce the Chair of that Commission.

Ms. Fogg thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission for inviting them to the meeting to give an update on the Commission on Youth and Children. She introduced Ms. Rebecca Turrentine, the newly elected Chair of the Commission on Youth and Children. Ms. Fogg explained that Ms. Turrentine was most recently the Superintendent of the Bell Garden School District, and is a long time Long Beach resident.

Ms. Fogg distributed an action item tracking system that she and Ms. Turrentine developed to keep the Commission focused. She then explained the action item key chart. Ms. Fogg displayed a board showing all of the 19 members of that Commission, made up of 9 young people representing each of the Council Districts and 10 adults representing different categories of expertise.

Ms. Turrentine stated that she is very honored to be serving as the Chair for the Commission on Youth and Children and she is very impressed with the City of Long Beach for placing this kind of focus on youth and children and having kids on the commission. She said that the focus of the Commission is: data collection and publishing that data, budget and how City resources are allocated in relationship to youth, and policy development. Ms. Turrentine stated that they have formed an Executive Committee and a Score Card Committee from the Commission. She said that they have also been working with each of the City Council members to encourage them to start youth councils in each district. Ms. Turrentine stated that they have elected a representative to sit on the Executive Planning Committee for the Youth Services Network and recommended two representatives to the City Manager for placement on the Steering Committee for the Youth and Gang Violence Taskforce.

V. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS

#04-0301

PERSONAL SERVICES/INSTRUCTION AGREEMENTS-MONTHLY APPROVAL

President Antenore stated that there were no personal services/instruction agreements this month.

#04-0302

MEMORIAL BENCH FOR LOUIS IRA AND GOLDIE GOULD

It was moved by Commissioner Marmion and seconded by Commissioner Chavarria to approve the placement and installation of the memorial bench in memory of Louis Ira and Goldie Gould at El Dorado Regional Park Area II. The motion carried unanimously.

#04-0303

REQUEST BY THE CALIFORNIA SUN & SURF INTERNATIONAL SOCCER TOURNAMENT FOR WAIVER OF CONCESSION AND FIELD PERMIT FEES

Ms. Bert Srack stated that the organization split last year and this request is the same as last year's request for the California Sun & Surf International Soccer Tournament. She said that there are certain stipulations in the permit, such as mitigating trash and parking issues, providing restrooms for all participants, and that the organization pay for any improvements or repair to the fields they are using.

Commissioner Saltzgaver suggested that the Department make sure there are benefits and value is received for requests for waiver of fees for all events.

Mr. Barraza thanked the Commission for their support and was very happy with the way things went last year.

It was moved by Commissioner Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Marmion to approve the request by the California Sun & Surf International Soccer Tournament for the waiver of concession and field permit fees for the dates of August 7-9 and August 14-16, 2004, with conditions stipulated. The motion carried with Commissioner Chavarria abstaining.

#04-0304

REQUEST FOR PERMIT APPROVAL AND FEE WAIVER FOR CAMBODIAN NEW YEAR CELEBRATION ON APRIL 10, 2004, IN AREA III OF EL DORADO EAST REGIONAL PARK

Mr. Hester stated that this is the group's annual request to conduct their Cambodian New Year Celebration, which is on April 10. He said that they would be paying entry fees into El Dorado Regional Park and, based on past history, it is about \$10,000 in revenue, so the fee waiver value is about \$4,000. Mr. Hester said that Department staff has been working with the group to coordinate the event.

President Antenore asked if the group has paid their past bills. Mr. Hester responded that the group still owes \$2,100 from last year and has agreed to a payment plan that is acceptable to the Department.

It was moved by Commissioner Chavarria and seconded by Commissioner Saltzgaver to approve the issuance of a permit to the Cambodian Coordinating Committee for a New Year Celebration in El Dorado East Regional Park on April 10, 2004, and authorize the waiver of all related permit fees. The motion carried unanimously.

#04-0305

**APPROVAL OF TWO GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION LAND AND WATER
CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM**

Mr. Hester requested that the Commission pull this item until the April meeting. He said that the Department was made aware of some changes to the grant and they need to make changes to the application.

President Antenore stated that this item would be pulled and brought to the Commission at the April meeting.

#04-0306

**REQUEST FOR PERMIT APPROVAL AND FEE WAIVER FOR THE CINCO DE
MAYO CELEBRATION AT CHITTICK FIELD**

Ms. Hodassa Jackson said that she is a volunteer coordinator for the Cinco de Mayo Committee. She thanked Department staff for their help and support on this annual celebration. She said that this year they are requesting that the celebration be moved to Chittick Field and be held over a three day period, from April 30 to May 2.

Mr. Hester stated that this is a great opportunity for the celebration to be in a location where it can service a bigger part of the city. He said that the expansion into a three-day event should allow the committee to become more financially viable.

It was moved by Commissioner Marmion and seconded by Commissioner Saltzgaver to approve the issuance of a permit to the Long Beach Cinco de Mayo Committee 2004 for the 19th annual Cinco de Mayo celebration at Chittick Field, from Tuesday, April 27, through Wednesday, May 5, 2004. The motion carried with Commissioner Chavarria abstaining.

VI. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
President Antenore, Chair

President Antenore stated that the Executive Committee did not meet this past month, due to the annual California Parks and Recreation Society conference, and she asked if Mr. Hester had any comments about the conference.

Mr. Hester stated that a few Department staff were able to attend and several volunteered at the event so they were able to attend for free. He said that Jim Clark, of the Greenbelt Committee, received a community award for his work on the greenbelt.

Commissioner Saltzgaver stated that the Executive Committee did meet earlier in the month to begin looking at the Department budget for the next fiscal year.

B. FINANCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE
Vice President Kozaites, Chair

Vice President Kozaites stated that the committee would meet next week to discuss fees. He said that the statement is included in the packet, and 42 percent of the year has expired, with expenditures down and revenue is down about 4 percent, which is probably because of the time of year.

C. PARK SAFETY COMMITTEE
Commissioner Rainey, Chair

President Antenore stated that the Committee would meet next month and the reports are included in the packet.

Commissioner Marmion commented on the amount of vandalism that takes place at Cesar Chavez Park and asked if it was time to fence that park. Mr. Hester responded that vandalism and graffiti are up all over the city and the Department would not want to fence the park. He said that the Police Department is being very active in fighting graffiti and vandalism.

D. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION COMMITTEE
Commissioner Satariano, Chair

Commissioner Satariano stated that the Committee would meet next month and encouraged the Commissioners to read page 3 of the Director's report.

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS COMMITTEE
Commissioner Marmion, Chair

Commissioner Marmion referred Commissioners to page 21 of the Director's report for an update on development activities. He stated that the Committee met on March 5, and they would have a recommendation under Unfinished Business.

F. CITY SCHOOLS/JOINT COMMITTEE
President Antenore, Chair

President Antenore stated that the Committee would meet next month.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION

A. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2004

Commissioner Chavarria stated that the Intervention/Prevention Division has been very busy this past month and he would like to recognize them for their efforts.

Commissioner Marmion brought up that perhaps the Commissioners could make sure that they have at least one representative at each of the functions they are invited to. After discussion, it was decided that Vice President Kozaites would take on this responsibility.

President Antenore stated that item B under New Business would be next.

X. NEW BUSINESS

B. CHILDREN'S DAY PRESENTATION – SUMMER HANSEN

Ms. Summer Hansen distributed information to the Commissioners and staff on the Children's Day event, planned for May 1, at El Dorado Park West. Ms. Hansen described the event she was planning.

Mr. Hester stated that this was a presentation only and that it would be brought back before the Parks and Recreation Commission in April for approval.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE

President Antenore stated that there was no correspondence.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DEPARTMENT'S STRATEGIC PLAN – STANDING ITEM

President Antenore stated that there was nothing new on this item.

B. PACIFICENTER SITE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Commissioner Marmion commended Mr. Eschen for his work on this item.

Mr. Eschen stated that the staff report is an information document. He described the Parks and Recreation Commission's portion of authority over the PacificCenter Project. He then went over the Capital Improvement Projects Committee's conclusions and suggested mitigation measures.

Ms. Diana Mann spoke about the health issues of having children play in a park next to the airport. Ms. Amy Bodek responded that the EIR found that there would be no significant health issues at this site.

Mr. Joe Weinstein spoke about open space needed in Long Beach and that this is a good opportunity to keep this site an open space.

Commissioner Saltzgaver responded that the Commission's only authority was to react to a portion of the draft EIR of this project. He said that the City is looking at the larger picture through the Strategic Plan, through the Planning Commission's land use policies. He stated that he appreciated Mr. Weinstein's comments, but this is all that the Parks and Recreation Commission can do, legally speaking.

Mr. Eschen stated that comments from the Parks and Recreation Commission have to be communicated to the Planning Commission for their consideration and certification and that the Parks and Recreation Commission could include comments and concerns over and above specific recommendations for mitigation measures.

Ms. Amy Bodek stated that as an advisory board to the City Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission does have the ability to express its thoughts and desires directly to the City Council and the Planning Commission. She said that a formal letter could be sent to the City Council summarizing the views and overall opinion, of the Commission. or from individual Commissioners.

Commissioner Marmion suggested that this be placed on the CIP Committee agenda so it can be addressed in a timely manner, but the Commission has done all they can do today.

It was moved by Commissioner Marmion and seconded by Commissioner Satariano to recommend the certification of the EIR for PacifiCenter if the listed mitigation measures are added:

- **0.5 acres of open space is relocated from the Lakewood portion of the site to the Long Beach portion or an additional 0.5 acres is added to the Long Beach portion.**
- **The development agreement shall not freeze the Park Impact Fee without a correction to that fee for the loss of purchasing power that has occurred since 1989.**
- **Playgrounds shall be included in two separate park sites.**
- **A youth sized football/soccer field shall be included at one park site.**
- **A youth sized baseball/softball backstop shall be included with the youth sized football soccer field to provide a multi-use field overlay.**
- **A recreation center shall be included in the private open space of a size equal to at least one square foot of floor area for each resident expected to reside on-site.**

- **The existing off-street bicycle path, or an improved redesign of that off-street path, shall continue for the full length of the Carson Street site frontage.**
The motion carried unanimously.

XI. COMMENTS

A. AUDIENCE

Mr. Joe Weinstein stated that he thought an item would be on the agenda today and asked if it could be put on the agenda in the future. Mr. Weinstein then distributed a handout. He said that he is requesting that the Parks and Recreation Commission take up the issue of a source of pollution, referring to gas powered leaf blowers. He said that they should not be tolerated in the parks or anywhere else in the city. He said that he was asked to bring it to the Parks and Recreation Commission's attention by the Long Beach Sierra Club.

Vice President Kozaites asked if staff could find out how many gas powered leaf blowers the Department has and how frequently they are used. Mr. Hester responded that staff would prepare the information and bring it back to the Commission.

Mr. Weinstein brought up the issue of occupational safety, such as hearing loss and air pollution. Mr. Hester responded that staff and contract employees are required to wear a facemask and ear plugs.

Ms. Diana Mann stated that she has a letter from the Gray Panthers who are concerned about city parks for their seniors and for kids. She stated that in regards to the proposed LNG facility, the LNG particulates are smaller than diesel. She also encouraged the City to stop using drinking water from plastic bottles. She said she would also like to see a stop to the use of styrofoam cups by the City.

Ms. Summer Hansen stated that she supports everything that Joe and Diana said and that we need to think about the environment.

President Antenore stated that there would a meeting of the League of Women Voters on March 20, at the Los Altos Library giving information about the proposed LNG facility, and Port staff would be attending the meeting.

B. STAFF

Ms. Bert Shack stated that Heather Green and Dixie Swift were honored as Enterprising Women by the Public Corporation for the Arts on Saturday at a special ceremony.

Commissioner Marmion requested that letters be drafted for President Antenore's signature, on behalf of the Commission, congratulating Ms. Green and Ms. Swift on this significant award.

Mr. Hester stated that there would be a groundbreaking ceremony for Daryle Black Park on May 15.

Ms. Bert Srack stated that the El Dorado Nature Center's Baby Animal Day would be held on March 20.

C. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Satariano stated that the Hall of Fame Committee is on track with its timetable, and would have a final list for approval by the Parks and Recreation Commission at the April meeting.

Commissioner Saltzgaver stated that President Antenore would be receiving the Sara Wenkle Kaplan Award from the Volunteers of America for her work with youth.

Commissioner Marmion requested that he be excused from the April meeting, because he would be out of town.

President Antenore stated that she would be out of the state also and asked that she be excused.

XII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 15, 2004, in the library at the El Dorado Senior Center, 2800 Studebaker Road, Long Beach.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

President Antenore adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Black
Executive Secretary
to the Director

c: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine